

10 MAR 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Support

SUBJECT : Possibility of Executive Order Concerning
Federal Personnel Administration

1. In response to your suggestion of 8 March, I called Mr. Nicholas Ogenovic, Executive Director of the Civil Service Commission, and in his absence talked with Mr. Bernard Rosen, Deputy Executive Director. I reported that it had been rumored that the President might issue an Executive Order calling for action by agency and department heads to correct alleged abuses in personnel management practices that are presently the concern of the Erwin Committee. The latter, as you know, is sponsoring a bill, S. 1035, to protect civilian employees of the executive branch of the United States Government in the enjoyment of their constitutional rights and to prevent unwarranted governmental invasions of their privacy.

2. I pointed out to Mr. Rosen that the Central Intelligence Agency has a very special interest in any legislation in this area or any Executive Order relative thereto. I noted that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been exempted from certain provisions in the proposed bill and that the CIA has not been so exempted.

3. Mr. Rosen immediately understood the basis for special interest on the part of CIA in any Executive Order on the subject and, without admitting that such an Order was in the making, he assured me that if at all possible the Commission would confer with us prior to the formalization of such an Executive Order. He did point out that he could not guarantee that such an Order might not be issued by the President without advance staffing by the Commission.

4. My inferred interpretation of the conversation is that such an Executive Order is being contemplated to bring about improvements in Federal personnel administration without the enactment of rigid and possibly unrealistic legislation.

/s/ Emmett D. Echols
Emmett D. Echols
Director of Personnel

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